

FIRST EDITION SOUTH AMERICA.

The Great Storm.

Buenos Ayres Afloat.

"Black Crook" Smythe.

His "Gin and Milk" on Trial.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

GIN AND MILK.

The Latest Clerical Scandal—Trial of the Rev. Charles B. Smythe, the "Black Crook" Puffer.

The New York Sun of this morning has the following:—

The Presbyterian Presbytery of this city and vicinity convened yesterday in the Eleventh Street Church to try the Rev. Charles B. Smythe, its pastor, upon charges offered by John Robertson and Harmon C. Henderson. The court organized with the Rev. Dr. Findlay as Moderator, and the Rev. Dr. Armstrong as Secretary.

After the Moderator had offered up a prayer, and the court had been made ready for the trial, a petition of the members of the congregation, praying for the dissolution of the pastorage, was offered, which, after some discussion, was laid on the table for future action.

The Secretary read the charges, as follows:— The undersigned hereby complain to the First United Presbyterian Presbytery of New York, and charge that according to an article published in the New York Sun of the 29th of April, 1870, Charles B. Smythe, minister and pastor of Eleventh Street United Presbyterian Church, was on Sabbath day, April 10, 1870, guilty of the following misdemeanors, to-wit:—

First, That after he had finished the sermon he called together the reporters who were present, and asked them to take some refreshments. Second, That "then he led them to a well-known liquor and refreshment saloon in the avenue near by." Third, That they passed in by the private door. Fourth, That he took them to a well-known saloon, and ordered he turned to the reporters, and asked them what they would drink. Fifth, That their orders having been given, he himself requested the barkeeper to bring him "some of the same."

Sixth, That "this turned out to be gin and milk, of the former of which he drank, with his fingers, swallowing the dose with evident relish." Seventh, That "the vicar having been disposed of, all arose to leave, and Mr. Smythe, turning to the barkeeper, earnestly requested him to hand him a glass."

Eighth, That "the barkeeper, who seemed to know him, said all right, and the party passed out and separated." Your complainants hereby think that the facts mentioned in the foregoing allegations involve a breach of the moral and disciplinary provisions of the Book of Discipline, chapter xx, 7th to 11th verse; and they respectfully submit that if these facts should prove to be true, the said Rev. Charles B. Smythe ought to be censured.

Mr. Smythe in his accustomed ultra theatrical style then read the following answer, which, as will be seen, acknowledges the truth of the entire article as published in the Sun, with the three important exceptions that the bar-room was not on Third avenue, that there were only two reporters present instead of six; and that he did not use the expression "hang that up" when he told the barkeeper to charge it to his account, or words to that effect. As for his refusal to take some refreshments, he says he believes that is the usual expression for "bring me a glass of gin and milk," the quantity testified to by the reporter of the Herald:—

For answer in this cause to the complaint the above-named defendant says that the complaint, in the language in which it is framed, is untrue in every particular, and respectfully requests the Presbytery to pronounce judgment accordingly upon the charges as they are stated in the complaint, and to acquit him of all the charges in full. But the defendant further says that after church on Sabbath, the tenth day of April last, he went to a hotel on Broadway, ate a breakfast, slipped some gin and milk from the former of which liquids he had about six teaspoonfuls according to the best of his recollection, and then he went to a saloon on the same occasion there were two gentlemen with him—members of the press—who took a plate of oysters, and one of them ordered a glass of ale, the other some gin and milk, the same in quantity as the defendant took; that it being the Sabbath day defendant did not pay the bill, but returned the oysters to the saloon, and the defendant and defendant called and paid the bill the next day. Defendant further says that he resides four miles from the church on the river, and that he has a Bible class there at 2 o'clock, it was not possible for him to go home to his lunch and come back in time; that, being much exhausted after preaching, he went after a walk to the river, and that he had a glass of ale, and a glass of gin and milk, and that he was physically, of such a lunch as he took, and as to his having company with him on the occasion, he believes that when the defendant circumstances shall be shown by the evidence, the Presbytery will consider them sufficiently extenuating to render that fact excusable, and hopes and respectfully requests that accordingly no censure be passed upon his behalf.

CHARLES B. SMYTHE, May 3, A. D. 1870.

The Moderator read from the Book of Discipline that "if any portion of facts are proved in the charges, he shall be guilty and punished for that portion."

The Rev. Mr. Armstrong said that if the facts were true, the charge of Sabbath drinking should be added.

Mr. John Stevens, a Herald reporter, having been called as a witness, testified substantially:—I was present at the church on the 10th of April to report the sermon of Mr. Smythe on the subject of oysters, and his proper punishment; after the services I asked Mr. Smythe to let me look at his notes, as I wished to read Blackstone on the law concerning adultery, which had been alluded to by Mr. Smythe; he asked me to go to lunch with him, and said that he could have a glass of gin and milk, and I did not hear him call together any number of reporters; we went out and proceeded down Third avenue, where Mr. P. T. Eaton, a Sun reporter, overtook us and asked Mr. Smythe for permission to refer to his notes for historical facts. Mr. Smythe said there would be some difficulty in talking them in the street, and asked him to go with us to lunch; we then went on to Broadway on near Eighth street; he did not inform us where he was going to take us; on reaching Eighth street we went into a hotel on the Eighth street side; no attempt was made to enter surreptitiously; we went into a private room, the waiter followed us, and Mr. Smythe waved his hand, and said:—"Order what you please." Mr. Eaton then ordered a glass of ale, I some oysters, and Mr. Smythe a breakfast. Afterwards he ordered some gin and milk, and when it came, he ordered some too, because it was a new drink to me. We had some conversation about nationalities, etc. There is truth underlying the article in the Sun. Mr. Smythe had a fatigued look; could not say whether it was natural to him or not; Mr. Smythe took a quarter of a testimony of gin.

Mr. P. T. Eaton's testimony was purely corroborative of the foregoing; but Mr. Eaton added: Mr. Smythe and I came out together; he spoke to the bar-keeper in reference to the bill, though I did not hear what he said; he did not pay for the refreshments.

Cross-examined by Mr. Smythe: At the Sun office I casually mentioned to the city editor, in the presence of Mr. Stevens, who had called to get the original manuscript, the circumstance of our being treated to oysters, gin and milk, and ale; and then left for home; the next morning, instead of my report, the article upon which these charges are based appeared; I thought Mr. Smythe looked fatigued

while we were in the private room eating our refreshments.

Mr. Smythe had hoped that the medical gentleman would be present to prove that gin and milk was a necessary beverage to his health.

Mr. Rosborough, for the prosecution, made some comments on the evidence, and thought that the charges had not been substantiated.

Mr. Smythe spoke next in his own defense, and spoke of the laborious nature of his work during the week previous to the 10th of April. He spoke of the rebuke which Christ gave his disciples in the corn-field on the Sabbath day after they had plucked the ears of corn, and considered that he was justified under the circumstances.

Dr. Harper remarked that the article as it appeared in the Sun had been colored to some extent, but the facts had been substantially proved. Mr. Smythe had acted very imprudently, and his conduct was calculated to do harm to the cause of Christ and the Church. He thought that some disciplinary censure should be administered.

The Rev. Mr. Triss highly commended the witness for his straightforward statements which he had made in view of no law requiring their attendance, and agreed with Dr. Harper that the charges were substantially proven. So did Mr. Robert Harper, the Rev. Mr. Thompson, and Elder McKay.

There were three, consisting of Dr. Harper, Mr. Robert Harper, and Elder Isaac McKay, who were appointed to review the evidence and to report to the Presbytery this morning at 9 o'clock.

THE DELUGE.

The Great Storm at Buenos Ayres—The Greatest Hurricane of Modern Times—Streets Inundated—Plazas Turned into Lakes—Cafes and Saloons Closed—Many Drowned in the Streets—An Awful Scene.

The Buenos Ayres Standard of March 11 gives the following particulars of the great storm, reports of which have already reached us by telegraph:—

On Wednesday, the 9th of March, one of the most fearful storms ever experienced in the River Plate blew over Buenos Ayres. The sky was dark and rainy, and westerly people saw a regular "temporal" setting in from the southeast. Mr. Louis McLellan and others refused to let their boats to go to the mole with passengers; nevertheless, some had the temerity to venture, and we learn that a boat which left about 4 P. M. for the Villa del Salto, and which had on board two gentlemen, was capsized and the passengers were drowned. At the time Captain Peel made great efforts to procure the steam launch Baby, but was unable to do so. The Baby, which was to sail the same evening for Liverpool, but the risk of going out twelve miles detoured everybody from the attempt.

The passengers who had the temerity to venture, and we learn that a boat which left about 4 P. M. for the Villa del Salto, and which had on board two gentlemen, was capsized and the passengers were drowned. At the time Captain Peel made great efforts to procure the steam launch Baby, but was unable to do so. The Baby, which was to sail the same evening for Liverpool, but the risk of going out twelve miles detoured everybody from the attempt.

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Harrisburg; George K. Anderson, Titusville; W. Vankirk and S. B. McElroy, Pittsburg; W. Kennedy, New Brighton; and Ephraim Smith, Benjamin Wild, A. P. Lacoek, John McDonald, and J. F. Dravo, of Beaver.

THE EAST RIVER BRIDGE.

The Great Caisson Successfully Sunk.

New York has got the start of Philadelphia in building its bridge, the initial performance in which task is thus narrated by the Evening Post of yesterday:—

The work of depositing the great East River Bridge caisson on the Brooklyn side took place this morning. It was towed by four steamers from the shipyard of Webb & Bell, near Greenpoint, at an early hour, and laid upon its bed, adjoining the Fulton Ferry slip, at 12 o'clock, in presence of a large crowd of men and women.

The caisson is a gigantic structure of heavy pine timbers, each thirteen inches in diameter. It is fifteen feet in depth, one hundred and sixty-eight in length, and one hundred and two feet in width. The bottom timbers are laid solidly together, but the two upper layers lie three inches apart, leaving a solid mass from top to bottom. There is a large chamber below, and an engine on the caisson was perpetually at work to force air into the hollow space and expel the water, in order to keep the mass afloat until it should reach its destination.

A dock had been built into which the caisson was precisely fitted. The structure was covered with iron cables, loose timbers, and human beings, and was hauled quietly into place by means of ropes and capstans.

The ground upon which it rests was five feet below water at low tide in the middle of February. It is now thirteen feet below, and at high water, eighteen feet. The bottom, which was composed of clay, gravel, and large boulders, has been dredged. To render it loose and easy for this process, piles were driven, and into the holes thus made the caisson was lowered and exploded. Many of the boulders were over ten tons in weight, and were destroyed by explosion, through the means of divers. This work was prosecuted at night. The cost of this clearing the ground has been about \$35,000.

It might be thought that the caisson would be preferable for the caisson, but rock is to be found only at a depth of ninety-seven feet, and the present foundation will be equally firm.

Now that the caisson is in place, excavation is being carried on below it, which is nine or ten feet deeper, and, at the same time, eight layers of transverse timbers will be piled upon it. It will then be precisely even with the surface of the water at high tide, and from that level the granite masonry will begin, as a basis for the great tower of the bridge.

Operations were carried on to-day with great ease, under the superintendence of Mr. Roebling, the bridge engineer, and Mr. Bell, the constructor of the caisson. Another caisson will be built at the close of the coming summer, and will be deposited next fall at Pier 20, on the New York side.

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SECOND EDITION

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

An Exploded Canard.

American Railway Securities.

On the Prussian Cause.

Connecticut Politics.

Legislative Cautions.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

FROM NEW ENGLAND.

The Connecticut Legislative Cautions.

New Haven, May 4.—The House Republican caucus last evening was attended by all the members. General Platt, of Wethersfield, presided, and Johnson, of Enfield, clerk. Hon. F. S. Foster, of Norwich, was nominated for Speaker by acclamation; E. B. Bennell, Assistant Clerk of last year, was nominated for Clerk by acclamation.

There were several candidates for Assistant Clerk, but on the second ballot B. H. Hough, of Essex, was nominated. Joseph R. Warren, F. P. Colton, and Charles W. Kelsey were nominated for State House Keepers, and John H. Platt, J. H. Phillips, and Charles H. Hoyt for Messengers. John Cotton Smith, of Sharon, is senior member of the House, and will call the House to order to-day.

The Republican Senate caucus was held at the New Haven House, Mr. Barbour, of Wolcottville, presided. Mr. Goslee, of Glastonbury, acted as Secretary. General Harland was nominated for President pro tem. John A. Tibbits, of New London, for clerk. N. D. T. Groton and Robert E. Horne, of Winsted, for messengers, and for doorkeepers E. O. Sage, of Danin and James M. Winters, of Granby.

In the Democratic House caucus W. W. Eaton, of Hartford, presided, and Mr. Olmstead, of Stamford, Secretary. The caucus decided to vote for T. E. Doolittle, of New Haven, for President, pro tem., and General Colt, of Norwich, for Clerk.

In the Democratic Senate Caucus Mr. Brown, of Waterbury, presided, and Mr. Beers, of Cornwall acted as Secretary. The caucus decided to vote for Mr. Johnson, of Hartford, for President, pro tem., and S. A. York, of New Haven, for Clerk.

CONGRESS.

FORTY-FIRST TERM—SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The House concurrent resolution for adjourning on July 4 was taken up, and a motion of Mr. Sumner to lay on the table, was negatived. Yeas 15, nays 4.

Mr. Johnson moved the time was ample within which to finish public business, and said experience had shown that the House could not do more than had been fixed. Congress worked up to the point.

Mr. Morrill (Vt.) moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Finance. Mr. Cannon thought the Finance Committee of all orders of business, and that it was not a definite action was desired.

Messrs. Wilson and Trumbull looked upon the resolution and objection as defeating the important bill upon the tariff, reduction of taxation, extension of banking facilities, and the enforcement of the fifteenth amendment, and the country expected to see peace, and Mr. Sumner thought the country might expect such results, but in the case of the Finance Committee.

A general discussion followed, to the effect that the business of the present session compared favorably in many respects with that of the last session. The morning hour expiring the resolution went over till to-morrow.

Mr. Sumner presented the memorial of a number of the largest mill owners in the United States against the proposed bill for the re-organization of the Custom House. Mr. Sumner reported with amendment the bill to extend the term of the private land claims.

Mr. Morrill (Maine) from the Committee on Appropriations reported a bill for the re-organization of the Custom House, relative to the deficiency for carrying out the reconstruction laws. Passed.

At 1 1/2 P. M. the caucus was taken up. The House met at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Sumner presented a communication from citizens of Philadelphia asking the enactment of the Civil Service bill.

Mr. Morgan presented additional petitions asking Congress to abolish the national banks, reissue the bonds deposited by them as security, issue \$500,000,000 in Treasury notes, and that they receive the payment of customs duties and other taxes collected by the Federal Government, and that they receive the same.

Mr. Wells, from the Committee on Railroads and Canals, reported a bill to incorporate the Mississippi Valley and Annapolis Harbors. Unanimously passed.

Mr. Wells, also, from the Committee on the Decline of Business in the States, reported a bill for a mail steamship service from New Orleans monthly to Tampico, Vera Cruz, Coahuila, Toluca, Laguna, Campeche, and other ports on the Gulf of Mexico.

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